

GAMBLING COMMISSION E-BULLETIN – ISSUE 79

9 April 2009

Welcome to the fortnightly email bulletin from the Gambling Commission (the Commission).

You have registered on our website to receive news and updates from us, and we issue this e-bulletin at fortnightly intervals to keep you up to date.

If you do not wish to receive future issues, please reply with the word 'UNSUBSCRIBE' in the subject heading.

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1. Proposals for Commission fees

DCMS and the Commission have released a joint consultation on proposals for fees.

The Gambling Act 2005 gives the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport the power to make regulations setting fees to be paid to the Commission. In doing so, the Secretary of State intends to ensure such fees are set in accordance with the Act and HM Treasury's rules and guidance on fees, levies and charges, at a level that enables the Commission to recover the full costs of delivering its responsibilities, while avoiding cross subsidisation and ensuring fairness and value for money for the gambling industry.

The consultation describes in detail the Commission's approach and cost basis as a background to the proposed fees. The consultation seeks to reflect the current difficult economic climate and to minimise the burden of regulation on operators wherever possible.

2. Response to Hampton review on more effective regulation

The Commission has welcomed a report from the Department for Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform (BERR), following a Hampton Implementation Review, which supports our plans to be a more effective regulator, particularly in the area of risk assessment. The review took place in October last year at the end of our first full year of operation, as part of the Government's better regulation agenda. It is part of a series of reviews of regulatory bodies which BERR and the National Audit Office are undertaking, following the 2005 Hampton report on reducing administrative burdens through effective inspection and enforcement.

3. Commission steps up drive to protect betting integrity

We have stepped up our drive to maintain the integrity of betting in Great Britain and we are calling for enhanced co-ordination between sports governing bodies and betting operators in our policy position paper on in-running (in play) betting.

4. Reminder to licensing authorities to complete and send in your quarterly returns

All licensing authorities are due to complete quarterly returns detailing your use of permits, temporary and occasional use notices, premises inspections, and the reasons for and outcomes of reviews. Please send your information for the quarter 1 January 2009 – 31 March 2009 to us no later than 31 April 2009.

If you have no activity to report, please submit a return stating this.

Download and complete the returns templates with your information and email it to localauthorityreturns@gamblingcommission.gov.uk.